(e) by when the final lists of BPL are likely to be published, particularly in Rajasthan;

(f) whether the number of BPL families in Rajasthan has incresed or decreased during each of the last three years; and

(g) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL): (a) to (e) After the vacation of the stay order by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on14.2.2006, the finalisation of BPL lists on the basis of BPL Census 2002 is being monitored regularly. The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand have already finalized the BPL lists. In the remaining States, the work is at various stages and the States have been advised to finalise the said lists by the end of June, 2007. The Ministry has already issued the guidelines to the States to ensure the transparency in preparation of BPL lists by getting it approved by the Gram Sabha and to minimize the subjectivity element. In order to remove the anomalies in the preparation of the BPL lists and to redress the public grievances, if any, a two-stage appeal mechanism has already been provided.

(f) and (g) The BPL Census is generally conducted after a period of 5 years. The objective of BPL Census is to identify the BPL households in the rural areas for trargeting them under the programmes of the Ministry and not to determine the number of BPL households. The States have been advised to identify the number of rural BPL households as determined by the official estimates of Planning Commission. The Government of Rajasthan has yet not finalized the new BPL lists.

New BPL list from States

4563. SHRI K.P.K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many States have so far submitted New BPL lists, to the Rural Development Ministry;

(b) whether Government propose to extend the two months grace time,

allowed to the Defaulting States, because the frequency of Gram Sabha Meetings may not synchronies with this time limit;

(c) whether the real reason for this default is the controversy over the criteria for categorization of people as BPL and APL; and

(d) whether Government would relax the conditions of stoppage of Central Funds for Rural Development works, because it may end in retardation and regression?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Seven States have already finalized the new BPL lists on the basis of BPL Census 2002. The progress of finalisation of BPL lists is being monitored/reviewed with the State Governments regularly. Last such review was done during the meeting of the Performance Review Committee held on 12th & 13th April, 2007. The States have been advise to complete the new BPL lists possibly by the end of June, 2007 after getting it approved by the Gram Sabha. The public grievances are also to be redressed through the two-stage appeal mechanism before finalizing the BPL lists.

(c) and (d) The methodology for BPL Census 2002 is score based ranking of the rural households for which 13 scorable socio-economic parameters have been prescribed. This methodology brings out the comparative level of deprivation of a rural household in an objective manner, therefore, the element of subjectivity has been minimized. No State has raised any major objection to the above methodology. The Ministry has not yet resorted to any penal action such as complete stoppage of Central funds for rural development works for non-finalisation of new BPL lists.

Implementation of NREGA in Orissa

4564. MR. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of districts in each State-wise where the NREG scheme was implemented in the first year, after its inception;